

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /045 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OA:MHSTYLES:VLV

APPROVED BY EB/OA:MHSTYLES

ARA/APU - MR. ORTIZ

CAB - MR. LITTON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EAIR, AR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - BILATERAL TALKS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 1109 AND 1207

1. ALTHOUGH DETAILED US POSITION NOT YET DEVELOPED, DEPT SEES NO REASON WHY EMBASSY SHOULD NOT BEGIN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS THIS WEEK. SUGGEST FIRST MEETING BE USED TO ASCERTAIN ISSUES GOA BELIEVES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED. WE CAN THEN PROVIDE DETAILED GUIDANCE FOR EMBASSY.

2. FOLLOWING IS PRELIMINARY GUIDANCE:

A. ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY OF NEGOTIATING A FULL AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT, OUR CURRENT VIEW IS THAT

IT WOULD NOT BE USEFUL TO ATTEMPT TO DO SO UNLESS THERE HAS BEEN A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN ARGENTINE CIVAIR POLICIES.

B. IMMEDIATE US INTERESTS ARE IN ADDITIONAL FREQUENCIES,

POSSIBLE USE OF WIDE-BODIED JETS, AND SUFFICIENT ROUTING

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FLEXIBILITY TO AVOID, FOR EXAMPLE, THE PROBLEM PAN AM HAD

IN CHANGING GAUGE AT CARACAS.

C. WE SUSPECT GOA INTERESTED IN SAME ITEMS, PLUS ADDITIONAL INTERMEDIATE POINTS ON SERVICES TO U.S. LATTER MAY

POSE SOME DIFFICULTIES FOR US.

D. WE DO NOT FAVOR TALKS AMONG THE AIRLINES AS A MEANS OF FINDING A SOLUTION. FACT THERE ARE TWO US AIRLINES, WITH NOT NECESSARILY COMPATIBLE INTERESTS, WOULD GIVE AEROLINEAS AN ADVANTAGE. THERE WOULD ALSO BE LEGAL PROBLEMS IN ALLOWING SUCH A DISCUSSION AMONG THE AIRLINES.

E. WHILE IT IS OF COURSE PREMATURE TO DECIDE SITE OF ANY NEW NEGOTIATIONS, EMBASSY SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT, IN VIEW TRAVEL FUND LIMITATIONS, WE MAY HAVE TO SUGGEST THAT THEY BE IN WASHINGTON.

F. AT ITS DISCRETION, EMBASSY MAY POINT OUT THAT WE EXPECT STATUS QUO IN CAPACITIES AND FREQUENCIES WOULD PREVAIL WHILE TALKS IN PROGRESS. KISSINGER

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